

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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FROM: BERLIN

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By HR-m/SG

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 774, MARCH 9, 8 P.M.

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8:40 P.M.

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SENT BONN 690, REPEATED INFORMATION DEPARTMENT 774

LIMIT DISTRIBUTION

ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT MEMORANDUM ON BERLIN CONTINGENCY PLANNING CONTAINED DEPT'S G-102 HAS PROGRESSED TO POINT OF TRIPARTITE DISCUSSION (DEPTEL 562), WE FEEL NONETHELESS THAT FROM POINT OF VIEW OF LOCAL FACTORS WE SHOULD COMMENT ON THREE SECTIONS OF MEMORANDUM. NUMERICAL INDICATORS EQUATE TO NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS OF MEMORANDUM.

1(B). USBER DESPATCHES 620 AND 621 REPORT INCREASING CONCERN AMONG BERLINERS AS TO HOW BERLIN PROBLEM WILL BE SOLVED. MOVES TO STRENGTHEN OVERALL WESTERN MILITARY POSITION ARE WHAT THEY HOPE FOR. THEY FEEL THAT SUCH MOVES NECESSARY CONVINCE SOVIETS EFFECTIVENESS ALLIED FIRMNESS.

3. THIS PROPOSAL IS SOUND JURIDICALLY, AS IS THESIS ALLIES SHOULD ASSUME SOV OCCUPATION AUTHORITY IN EAST BERLIN, BUT IN PRACTICAL TERMS FEASIBILITY DOUBTFUL UNLESS ALLIES PREPARED MILITARILY TO OCCUPY ENTIRE LENGTH OF AUTOBAHN.

4(B). THE UNIQUE SOLIDARITY WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN ALLIES AND BERLINERS IS BASED ON RECOGNITION THAT BOTH HAVE AN EQUAL STAKE IN BERLIN AND ARE PREPARED TO TAKE SAME RISKS TOGETHER. TO ORDER EVACUATION OF ALLIED DEPENDENTS WITHOUT AT SAME TIME BEING ABLE TO OFFER TO EVACUATE EQUIVALENT GERMANS WOULD CERTAINLY AFFECT THAT SOLIDARITY. ONLY POSSIBLE COVER FOR ORDERING EVACUATION OF ALLIED DEPENDENTS WOULD APPEAR TO BE STRENGTHENING ALLIED GARRISONS TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT DEPENDENT'S QUARTERS ABSOLUTELY NEEDED FOR TROOPS. STRENGTHEN

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7-2- 774, MARCH 9, 8 P.M., FROM BERLIN

ING BERLIN GARRISONS WOULD DOUBTLESS BE POPULAR WITH THE  
BERLINERS, BUT ITS MILITARY ADVANTAGE WOULD APPEAR  
OPEN TO QUESTION.

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